

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1493

By Watson

A RESOLUTION to commemorate the celebration of
Independence Day on July 4, 2022.

WHEREAS, on July 4, 1776, the Second Continental Congress unanimously adopted the Declaration of Independence, announcing the American colonies' separation from Great Britain and the beginning of a new and bold experiment in democracy that has endured for nearly 250 years; and

WHEREAS, since becoming an official holiday in 1870, Independence Day, or the Fourth of July, has held a special place in the hearts of all Americans; and

WHEREAS, Independence Day celebrates the very essence of American democracy, which avers, through the Declaration of Independence, the equality of all citizens and insists upon "government of the people, by the people, and for the people" in the legendary words of President Lincoln; and

WHEREAS, in throwing off the yoke of British tyranny in 1776, the signers of the Declaration of Independence recognized certain inalienable rights, most importantly "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness"; and

WHEREAS, today, we too often take these rights for granted, but even a mere glance at current world affairs should reaffirm our faith in our republic and make us fall to our knees in gratitude; and

WHEREAS, on Independence Day, Americans display their patriotism in numerous ways, including red, white, and blue clothing and accessories, picnics, parades, fireworks, and concerts featuring patriotic music; and

WHEREAS, these celebrations are indeed inspiring, for they personify the love and respect we feel for our nation that is second to none in freedom of expression and economic opportunity; and

WHEREAS, as we celebrate the 246th Independence Day this year, we should pause in our festivities to contemplate the many sacrifices made by our founders and our military service members in building and maintaining the greatest democracy in the history of the world; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we commemorate the celebration of Independence Day on July 4, 2022, and join with nearly 330 million of our fellow citizens in paying homage to the United States of America and the causes of freedom and self-determination worldwide.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.